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CHAL-0028  
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26 May 1958

**MEMORANDUM FOR:** Director of Operations, DPS/DCI

**SUBJECT** : Back-Up Aircraft

**REFERENCES** : Memorandum for D/DCI, dated 19 May 1958  
(CHAL-0138)  
Memorandum for SA/PD/DCI dated 16 May 1958  
(TS-155075)

1. Herewith is a copy of a memorandum from General Cabell on the matter of the readying of a back-up aircraft to take off and accompany the primary aircraft close to the point of penetration on all operational missions. This brief statement of General Cabell's decision requires considerable elaboration in the light of the wishes expressed by him in the conversation therein referred to. Briefly the policy by which he desires us to be guided is as follows:

a. We will not augment our overseas Detachments unless and until we have definite reason to expect a substantial program of overflights.

b. The number of aircraft to be employed in any future staging mission will take into account such considerations as ease of logistics support and desirability on security grounds of minimizing the scale of such an operation.

c. Given the resources available at a regular or staging base, technical ground personnel, pilots and aircraft will not be committed for back-up purposes if such commitment would impair our capability to carry out other operational missions in the immediate future.

d. Whenever it is possible within the above limitations, a back-up aircraft and pilot will be readied for every operational mission and will accompany the primary aircraft either to the actual point of penetration or to penetration of enemy radar coverage as may be determined in each case.

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e. This policy will apply only to operational missions against Communist Bloc countries.

2. We should probably discuss this matter before any further steps are taken. Thereafter I would appreciate if you would work out operational procedures to give effect to the foregoing policy and arrange for the transmission of these procedures to the two Detachment Commanders.

Attachment:

Copy # of CHAL 0029

*S/per m*  
RICHARD M. BISSELL, JR.  
SA/PD/DCI

SA/PD/DCI:RMB:djm

1-Addressee

2-Deputy Director, DPS/DCI

3-Dir of Admin DPS/DCI

4-Dir of D&P, DPS/DCI

5-Dir of Materiel, DPS/DCI

6-SA/PD/DCI FU

7-SA/PD/DCI Chal Chrono

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